CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The following claim listing replaces all previous claim listings:

1. (currently amended) A lens molding die which comprises:

a base member made of a hard material and having one surface of a predetermined shape;

a resin-molded surface layer formed on said one surface of the base member and having a surface shape corresponding to a predetermined shape of one surface of a lens to be produced; ~~and~~

a lower cylindrical holder configured to surround and fixedly hold said base member;

an upper member having a lower surface configured to contact the surface of said resin-molded surface layer;

an upper cylindrical holder configured to surround and fixedly hold said upper member; and

a ring-shaped positioning member configured to be coaxially sandwiched between said lower and upper cylindrical holders, wherein:

said surface shape of said resin-molded surface layer is uninterrupted and conforms to said predetermined shape of said base member;

said resin-molded surface layer is inactive with a material to be molded by said lens molding die;

a curvature of said surface shape of said resin-molded surface layer is different from a curvature of said predetermined shape of said base member; and

a thickness of said resin-molded surface layer is less than a thickness of said base member.

2. (original) The lens molding die according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined shape of said one surface of the base member is spherical while the surface shape of the resin-molded surface layer is aspheric.

3. (canceled)

4. (previously presented) The lens molding die according to claim 1, wherein said surface layer is made of a thermosetting resin material.

5. (previously presented) The lens molding die according to claim 1, wherein said surface layer is made of a ultraviolet-curable resin material.

6-20. (canceled)

21.(currently amended) A lens molding die comprising:

a base member having a surface configuration;

a resin-molded surface layer on said surface of said base member and having a surface layer surface configuration corresponding to a shape of a surface of a lens to be produced; and

a lower cylindrical holder configured to surround and fixedly hold said base member;

an upper member having a lower surface configured to contact the surface of said resin-molded surface layer;

an upper cylindrical holder configured to surround and fixedly hold said upper member; and

a ring-shaped positioning member configured to be coaxially sandwiched between said lower and upper cylindrical holders, wherein:

said surface layer surface configuration is uninterrupted and conforms to said base member surface configuration;

a curvature of said surface layer surface configuration does not correspond to a curvature of said base member surface configuration; and

a thickness of said resin-molded surface layer is less than a thickness of said base member.

22. (canceled).

23. (currently amended) A lens molding die comprising:

a base member having a spherical surface;

a resin-molded surface layer on said spherical surface and having an aspherical surface configuration corresponding to a shape of a surface of a lens to be produced; and

a lower cylindrical holder configured to surround and securely hold said base member;

an upper member having a lower surface configured to contact the surface of said resin-molded surface layer;

an upper cylindrical holder configured to surround and fixedly hold said upper member; and

a ring-shaped positioning member configured to be coaxially sandwiched between said lower and upper cylindrical holders, wherein:

said aspherical surface of said resin-molded surface layer is uninterrupted and conforms to said spherical surface of said base member;

a thickness of said resin-molded surface layer is configured to vary only in accordance with the aspheric component of said resin-molded surface layer; and

a thickness of said resin-molded surface layer is less than a thickness of said base member.

24-26. (canceled)

27. (previously presented) The lens molding die according to claim 2, wherein a thickness of said resin-molded surface layer is configured to vary only in accordance with the aspheric component of said resin-molded surface layer.

28. (previously presented) The lens molding die according to claim 21, wherein:

said surface layer surface configuration of said resin-molded surface layer is aspheric;

said base member surface configuration is spherical; and

a thickness of said resin-molded surface layer is configured to vary only in accordance with the aspheric component of the resin-molded surface layer.

29. (canceled)

30. (previously presented) The lens molding die according to claim 1, wherein a thickness of said resin-molded surface layer ranges from 0.2 mm to 0.5 mm.

31. (previously presented) The lens molding die according to claim 21, wherein a thickness of said resin-molded surface layer ranges from 0.2 mm to 0.5 mm.

32. (previously presented) The lens molding die according to claim 23, wherein a thickness of said resin-molded surface layer ranges from 0.2 mm to 0.5 mm.

33-35. (canceled)

DISCUSSION SUMMARY

Applicant extends appreciation to the interview for the telephonic discussion of June 1, 2005, with Applicant's representative, Attorney William Boshnick. During the discussion, Attorney Boshnick and Examiner Heckenberg discussed proposed amendments to independent claims 1, 21 and 23, noting that the inventions of the applied NEEFE and WICHTERLE references use a "spin cast" manufacturing process, in which a predetermined amount of material is deposited in a mold, which is then spun at a predetermined speed for a predetermined amount of time, to produce a contact lens of a desired prescription, and that the present invention does not produce lenses by such a spin casting method, but rather by injecting lens material between two opposing molding dies (*See, e.g.*, page 9, lines 3-22 and Fig. 3 of Applicant's specification), each molding die being formed between two members (*See, e.g.*, page 7, line 5 – page 8, line 15 and Fig. 1 of Applicant's specification). It was then suggested by the Examiner to amend the independent claims to recite, *e.g.*, two opposing members, which would appear to overcome the references of record. Applicant notes that the amendments to independent claims 1, 21 and 23 each recite an upper and lower member.